



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

800 BAY ROAD
P.O. Box 778
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

NATHAN HAYWARD III
SECRETARY

January 25, 2006

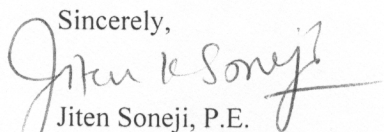
Dear Wooddale Residents:

As was mentioned in the letter dated December 19, 2005, periodical updates of the status of the project will be mailed and posted on the website. Since that time, there have been several questions that will be addressed below.

First, there have been some questions regarding the safety and durability of the temporary bridge. It should be pointed out that the temporary bridge is treated the same as all of the bridges in our bridge inventory. The structural capacity is more than adequate and contains the same safety factors used in the design of any other bridge in our highway and road system. Past experiences have shown that these types of structures can last several years without problems, although we plan on having the project complete well before that becomes a concern. The bridge is currently on a 6-month inspection cycle, which is much more frequent than the 2-year cycle of most of our other bridges. The last inspection was performed in September of 2005 and showed that the bridge is in great condition. Rest assured, the safety of the traveling public is our number one concern, and we would not place an inadequate structure in service.

We have recently received some encouraging news regarding the funding of the project. We have just recently learned that funding for the construction has been allotted from our FY07 (Fiscal Year 2007 - July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007) bridge program. Actual approval of the funding for the FY07 bridge program will not take place until the FY07 bond bill is passed, which will take place on or before June 30, 2006. We are confident that this will take place because the bridge program is being funded from existing trust fund revenues rather than possible future revenue increases.

Regarding the design of the project, we are still on schedule for a November 2006 design completion. We are currently proceeding through the environmental process, utility and real estate coordination, and design plan preparation as stated at the last public workshop. We will be soliciting additional input from the public to refine the aesthetic details of the project at a future time to be determined. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, please give us a call or send us an email at the contact information provided on the website.

Sincerely,

Jiten Soneji, P.E.
Bridge Design Engineer

JNH:jhb

cc: Carolann Wicks, Chief Engineer
Dennis O'Shea, Assistant Director, Design Support
Douglass Robb, Supervising Engineer, Bridge Design
Jason Hastings, Project Engineer, Bridge Design
Darrel Cole, Director, Public Relations

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